

SMILIN' ED'S OWN
BUSTER BROWN

**BOOK
No 12**

COMICS

HEY, SMILIN' ED!—
DON'T LOOK NOW, BUT
WE AREN'T ON THE ROLLER
COASTER ANYMORE! —
WE AREN'T—WE AREN'T!



**Crocodile God of the Nile
Panther Woman
Ed McConnell and his Radio Gang**

Kids Listen in every Saturday morning
Station WWJ

DIETZEL'S
Brown ^{bilt} Shoe Store

ANN ARBOR, MICH





WEB COMIC
UNIVERSE.COM

**"Trust your
Buster Brown
Shoeman for
EXPERT FIT"**



Dear buddies and mothers and dads:

The Buster Brown folks really know how to make shoes that are *shaped* to fit growing feet properly. Buster Brown Shoes are made on "Live-Foot" Lasts, so called, because they actually are shaped like the lively feet of children. That's the first part of the Buster Brown fit story. The second part is that the shoemen at your Buster Brown store are experts in fitting boys and girls in just the right size and width for the greatest comfort and freedom. Take it from me, they'd rather lose a sale than sell a pair of shoes that weren't exactly right.

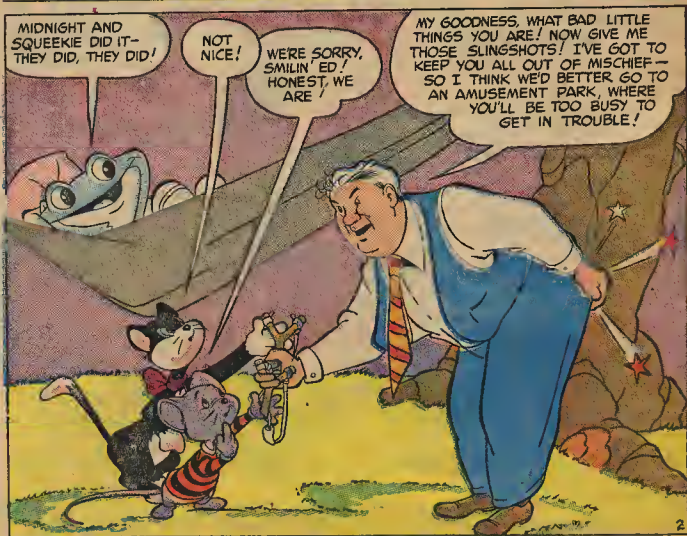
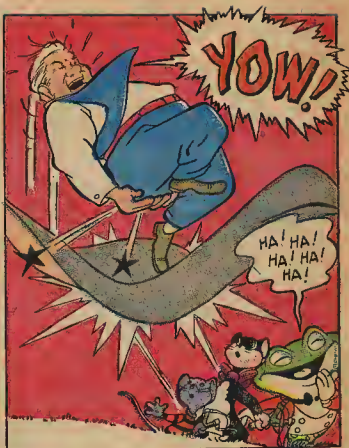
Sincerely,

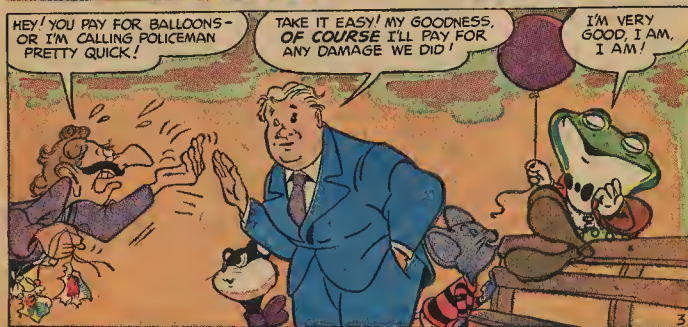
Smilin' Ed



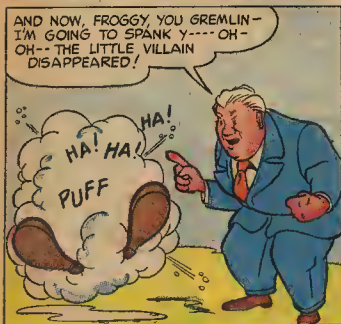
Looney Park

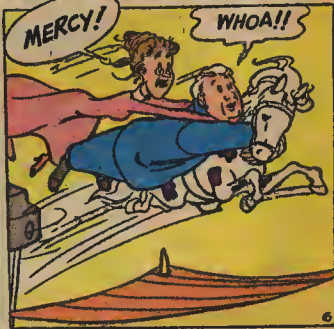
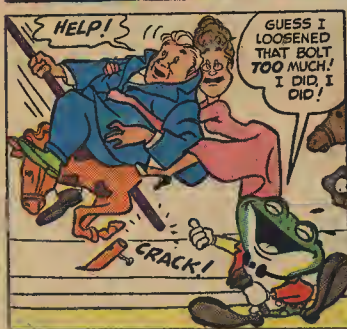
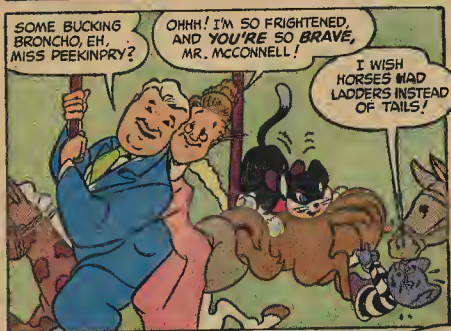
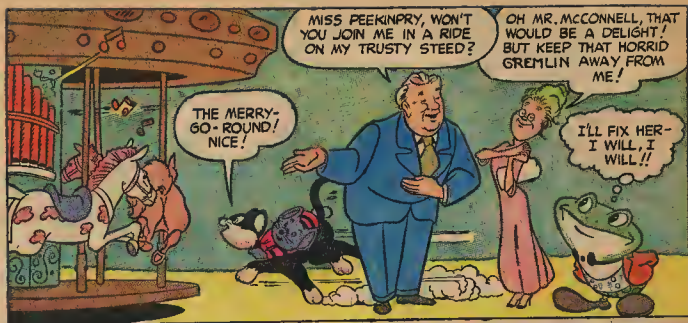


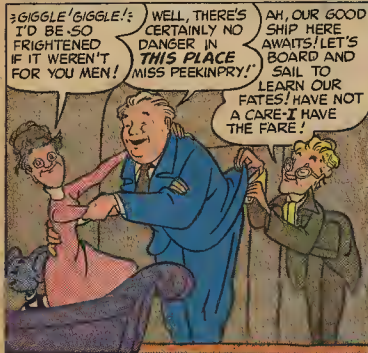
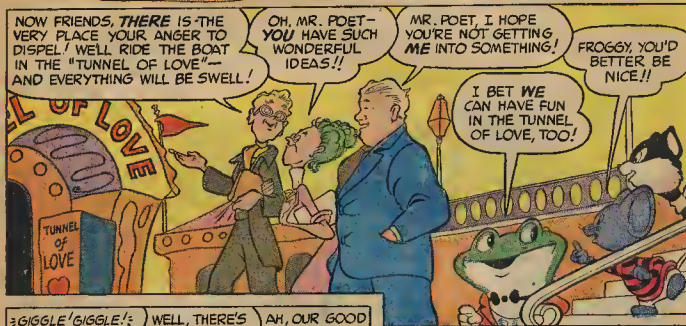
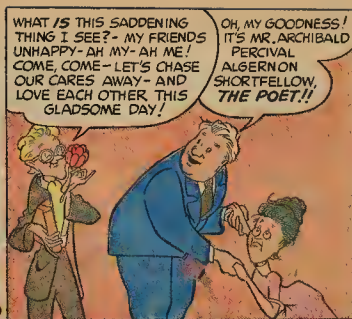
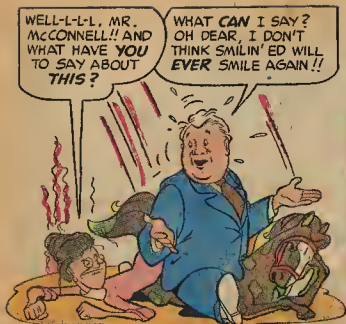














WE'RE ON OUR WAY SO LET'S BE GAY!

SOMETHING TELLS ME I SHOULDN'T BE HERE!

~SIGH~

THIS WET ROPE FEELS JUST LIKE A SNAKE—IT DOES, IT DOES!

SOME POETS THEY PREFER THE DAYS—THEY'RE SORRY WHEN THEY GO—BUT I PREFER THE DARK OF NIGHT—THE PATCHES ON MY PANTS DON'T SHOW!

CHHH!
IT'S SO DARK IN HERE!

NOW DON'T WORRY, MISS PEEKINPRY! NOTHING CAN HAPPEN IN HERE!

OH! I THINK THERE'S A BIG **SNAKE** IN THIS BOAT—I DO, I DO!

NOW FROGGY, NONE OF YOUR SILLY JOKES!

A SNAKE YOU SAY—WITHIN THIS BOAT? SHEER

HORROR—YES—AND GRIM! I WONDER HOW DEEP THIS WATER IS—AND I WONDER IF I CAN SWIM?

EEEEek!

SMILIN' ED DOESN'T KNOW IT, BUT I BET I CAN MAKE SOMETHING **HAPPEN** IN HERE! I CAN, I CAN!

NICE!

LOOK OUT!! THE SNAKE IS COMING! HE IS, HE IS!

HELP! HELP! AND AID! SOME SUCCOR—QUICK! SOMEBODY USE YOUR HEAD!! THE SNAKE'S CRAWLED DOWN INSIDE MY SHIRT! I THINK I'LL SOON BE DEAD!

OH, MY GOODNESS! LOOK OUT, MR. POET! YOU'RE ROCKING THE BOAT!

A SNAKE IS NO COMPANION—AND THAT IS—JUST THE RUB—I THINK I'LL TRY TO SHAKE HIM—I DO NOT LIKE HIM... GLUB!!

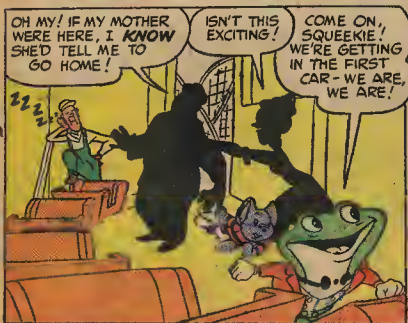
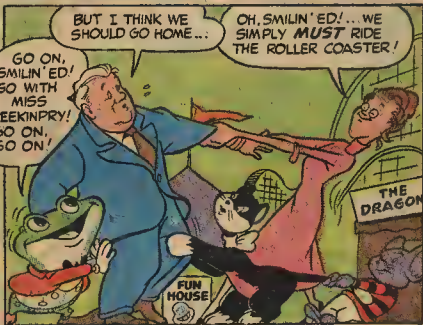
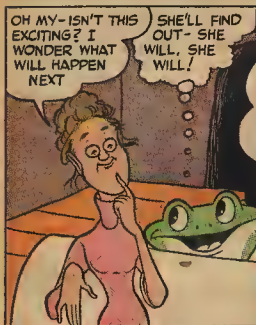
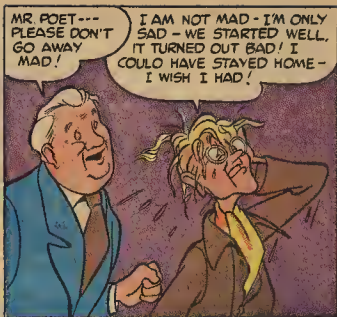
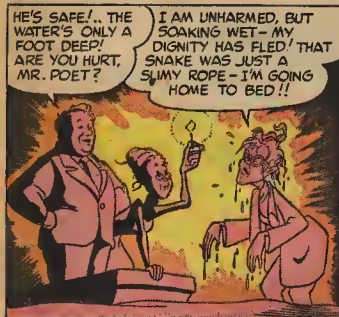
OH, MY GOODNESS, THE POET'S FALLEN IN THE WATER! MISS PEEKINPRY, TAKE THIS BOX OF MATCHES AND KEEP ONE LIT! I'VE GOT TO SAVE HIM!

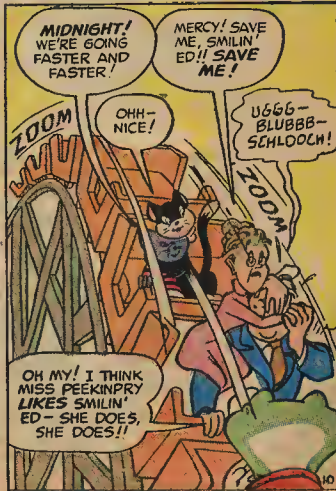
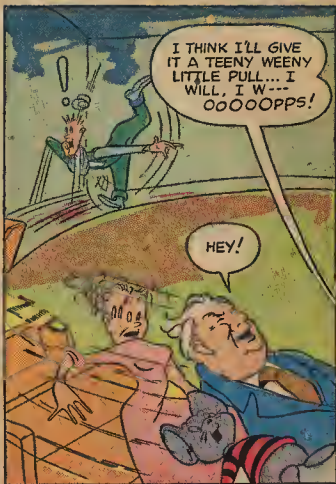
HA! HA! HA! HA!

CHHH!
DEAR!

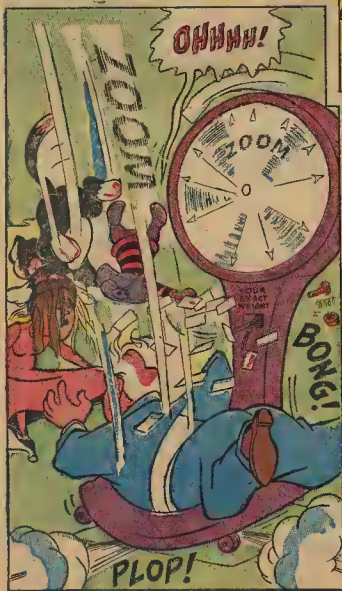
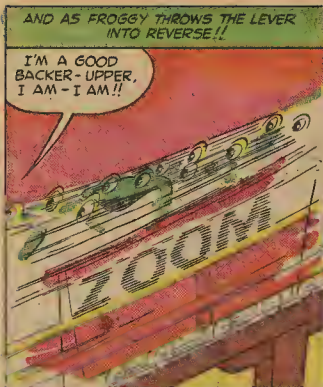
EEEEekk!!
I'M GOING TO FAINT!

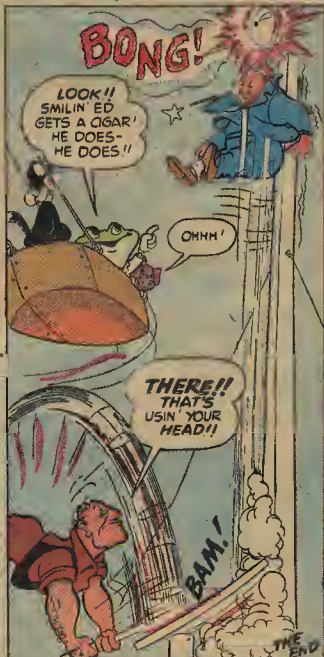
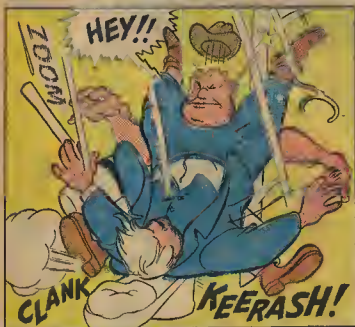
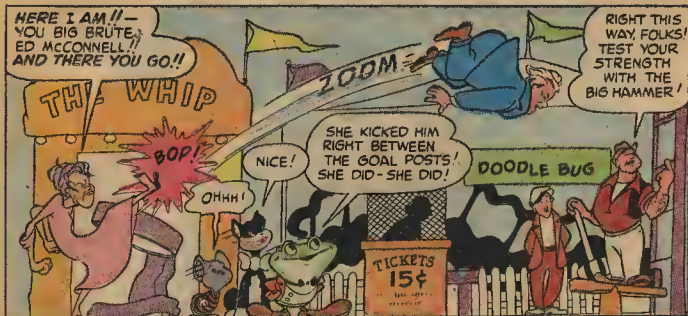
SPLASH











PANTHER WOMAN

TR^EACHERY,
PANTHERS AND
A VICIOUS
WOMAN MAKE
A GRIM
COMBINATION
FOR ANY
FOE... AND
SIMPLE
JAVANESE
NATIVES ARE
NO MATCH
FOR THIS
ENEMY IN A
STRUGGLE
WHERE **TEA**
IS THE
RICH PRIZE
AND
TERROR
IS THE
RULE!



KEN AND JIM BARRY ARRIVE IN SERANG, JAVA, TO INVESTIGATE TROUBLE ON A TEA PLANTATION.

AH, MYNHEER BARRY, IT IS GOOT TO SEE YOU AGAIN! AND WHO IS THIS YOUNG MAN?

MY BROTHER JIM! - JIMMY, THIS IS HENDRICK VAN DOOR!

I'M GLAD TO MEET YOU, SIR! AND I SURE HOPE WE CAN HELP STRAIGHTEN OUT THE TROUBLE ON YOUR TEA PLANTATION

IT'S STRANGE TO HEAR YOU SAY THE NATIVES WILL NOT GATHER THE TEA LEAVES, IF THE TEA IS FLUSHED IT SHOULD BE PICKED!

SURE... BECAUSE THE JAVANESE ARE A VERY INDUSTRIOUS PEOPLE,

NEVER BEFORE HAS THIS HAPPENED TO MY PLANTATION! BUT NOW THE PEOPLE WILL NOT COME NEAR ME! AND THE TROUBLE IS SIMPLY... **BLACK PANTHERS!** ... BUT... I WILL SHOW YOU!

SEE... HERE ARE THE **TRACKS!** TWICE HAVE I HIRED PROFESSIONAL HUNTERS! OFTEN HAVE I HUNTED MYSELF, BUT NEVER CAN I FIND A PANTHER TO SHOOT! AND THE VILLAGERS- THEY SEEM TO **LIKE** THE PANTHERS BEING HERE!

WELL, THERE'S SOMETHING ROTTEN IN JAVA, THEN! NATIVES ARE USUALLY THE FIRST ONES TO **FEAR** THE PANTHERS!

HEY, KEN! THERE'S SOMETHING FUNNY ABOUT SOME OF THESE TRACKS!

YOU'RE RIGHT, JIM! LOOK AT THE SIZE OF **THESE** TRACKS, AS COMPARED TO THE OTHERS! I THINK WE OUGHT TO TALK TO THE VILLAGE HEADMAN!

PERHAPS A **BIGGER** PANTHER THAN THE OTHERS?

OH NO! MR. VAN DOOR! IT'S MORE THAN JUST THAT!

I WILL SEND FOR THE HEAD PERSON OF THE VILLAGE! BUT I THINK WE WILL HAVE TO BE PATIENT AND WAIT!

WAIT? BUT WHY SHOULD YOU HAVE TO WAIT?

MYNHEER KEN, YOU HAVE A SURPRISE COMING TO YOU OUR "HEADMAN" IN THIS VILLAGE WILL NOT BE WHAT YOU EXPECT! HERE, BAKU! TAKE THIS MESSAGE TO GORA!



I'VE COME IN ANSWER
TO YOUR MESSAGE,
MYNHEER VAN DOOR!

GOOD GORA! THESE
ARE THE MYNHEEREN
BARRY! THEY ARE
HERE ABOUT THE
BLACK PANTHERS

MYNHEER BARRY, IT IS
BEST YOU GO AWAY
QUICKLY! THE BLACK
PANTHERS WILL NOT LIKE
YOU! LET US SIMPLY SAY
THAT THE CLIMATE OF
SERANG IS BAD FOR
THE AMERIKANDER!

I AM SORRY, MISS... ER...
GORA! THE TEA MUST BE
HARVESTED! WE ARE
HERE TO SEE THAT THE
LEAVES ARE GATHERED,
BLACK PANTHERS OR NO!

WOW!! THIS IS A
SURPRISE! I DIDN'T
EXPECT TO SEE A
LOVELY GIRL AS HEAD
OF THIS VILLAGE!

HOLY
COW!

TELL YOUR PEOPLE TO
GO BACK TO WORK,
GORA, OR THERE WILL
BE TROUBLE!

THE BLACK
PANTHER SAYS
DO NOT
HARVEST TEA!

THERE WILL BE NO
TROUBLE! DO NOT
TAMPER WITH THE
BLACK PANTHER, OR
IT WILL BE YOUR
DEATH!

THAT'S WHERE YOU'RE WRONG,
GORA! THE TEA WILL BE
HARVESTED IF I HAVE TO
BRING MEN IN FROM ELSEWHERE
TO DO THE JOB! IN THE MEANWHILE,
I'M GOING **PANTHER HUNTING!**

I WARN YOU- YOUR
REWARD MAY BE A
TASTE OF THE
BLACK PANTHER'S
DEADLY FANGS!!

GORA LEAVES VAN
DOOR'S HOME AND
HURRIES INTO
THE JUNGLE WITH
THE GRACE OF A
CAT! HER MISSION
WOULD HAVE
BEEN A SHOCK
TO THE MEN
HAD THEY KNOWN
HER PURPOSE!



DINGA! KABONG!
AIEEEE !!



AHA, MY PETS!
YOU ANSWER
YOUR MASTER'S
CALL!





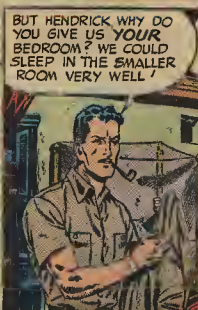
AHA- YOU ARE HAPPY TO SEE ME?
WELL, I WILL GIVE YOU
GOOD REASON FOR
PLEASURE - TONIGHT!



YOU WONDER WHAT IT WILL BE?
HO HO! A **HUNT!** BUT WHAT A
GLORIOUS HUNT! TONIGHT, MY
PETS, WE WILL HUNT A **HUNTER!**



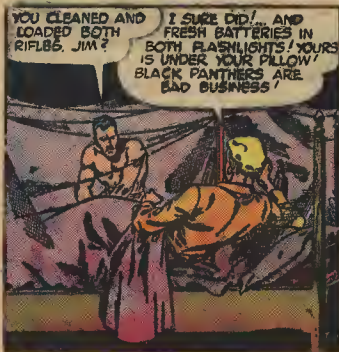
... AND WHILE
THIS STRANGE
JUNGLE SCENE
TAKES PLACE,
KEN AND JIM
ARE PUT UP
FOR THE NIGHT
BY HENDRICK
VAN DOOR...



BUT HENDRICK WHY DO
YOU GIVE US **YOUR**
BEDROOM? WE COULD
SLEEP IN THE SMALLER
ROOM VERY WELL!

SURE, MR. VAN
DOOR, WE DON'T
WANT TO TAKE
YOUR BEDROOM

SHUSH! SHUSH! THE SMALL
ROOM HAS BUT ONE BED!
YOU HAVE TWO BEDS
HERE!! JUST BE
COMFORTABLE AND SLEEP
GOOD! PERHAPS THEN YOU
CAN SOLVE MY PROBLEMS
FOR ME!



YOU CLEANED AND
LOADED BOTH
RIFLES, JIM?

I SURE DID!... AND
FRESH BATTERIES IN
BOTH FLASHLIGHTS! YOURS
IS UNDER YOUR PILLOW!
BLACK PANTHERS ARE
BAD BUSINESS!



YES - AND THE "BAD BUSINESS" IS ON
THE PROWL!

THIS IS IT—THE GUEST ROOM!...THE AMERIKANDERS SHOULD BE IN HERE! NOW MY PETS—**STRIKE!**



HELP!



**KILL THE FOOL!
CLAW HIM, MY
FAITHFUL ONES!**

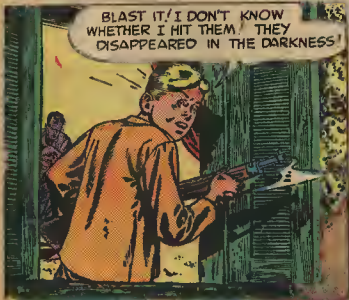


**IT'S HENDRICK!
HE'S BEEN
ATTACKED!**

**LOOK, KEN!
THE BLACK
PANTHERS!
I'LL GET THEM!**



**BLAST IT! I DON'T KNOW
WHETHER I HIT THEM! THEY
DISAPPEARED IN THE DARKNESS!**



**UGH... THERE WERE
THREE... PANTHERS...
I HAD NO... CHANCE...
TO MOVE ...**

**MIGHTY FUNNY
PANTHERS... COMING
RIGHT INTO A
HOUSE!**



**BROTHER!
THIS SETTLES
IT! THERE'S A
BRIGHT MOON!
JIM! WE'RE
GOING PANTHER
HUNTING—
RIGHT NOW!**

HEY! GET A LOAD OF **THIS!!** I THOUGHT YOU SAID YOU **MISS**ED THOSE PANTHERS!

BY GOLLY... GUESS I HIT ONE AFTER ALL! **BLOOD SPOTS!**

EASY NOW!... THESE SPOTS ARE STILL WET! WE MUST BE GETTING CLOSE TO THEM!

LOOK! THERE'S ONE! HIT 'IM!!

BAM!
BAM!

DARN THESE BLACK JUNGLES! WE **DID** MISS THIS TIME!

GUESS SO! C'MON! LET'S GO BACK TO THE PLANTATION! I'VE GOT A WILD IDEA!

NEXT MORNING, YOUNG JIM GOES ON A MISSION TOWARD THE NATIVE VILLAGE! WHILE AT THE PLANTATION KEN SPEAKS TO VAN DOOR!

HENDRICK.. TELL ME ABOUT GORA! WHY IS A BEAUTIFUL YOUNG WOMAN THE HEAD OF THE VILLAGE INSTEAD OF AN ELDERLY MAN?

THERE IS LITTLE TO TELL! A YEAR AGO SHE CAME HERE FROM THE EAST SIDE OF THE ISLAND. THE PEOPLE SEEMED TO ALMOST WORSHIP HER RIGHT FROM THE START! AT ONCE SHE ASSUMED HER POSITION AS LEADER! I SAW NO HARM IN IT SO I DID NOTHING! WHY?— DO YOU SUSPECT HER?

I'M SURE THAT GORA IS SOMEHOW AT THE BOTTOM OF THIS BLACK PANTHER BUSINESS— THOSE THREATS SHE MADE TIED IN TOO WELL WITH WHAT'S HAPPENED! I'M GOING TO GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS!

MEANWHILE - JIM APPROACHES THE
NATIVE VILLAGE!

HEY! I SEE SOMETHING!
MAYBE KEN WAS RIGHT!

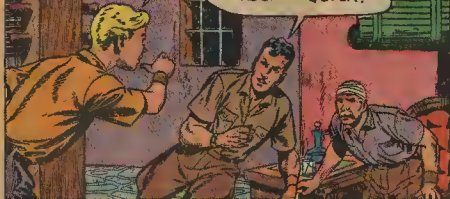


GOSH! KEN WAS
RIGHT, OKAY! I'D
BETTER GET BACK -
BUT QUICK!



HEY, KEN! YOU WERE
SURE ENOUGH RIGHT!
THE BLOOD SPOTS LED
STRAIGHT TO GORA'S
HOUSE IN THE VILLAGE!

I KNEW! AND I THINK THE
PANTHERS WILL PROWL AGAIN
TONIGHT! HENDRICK! GO TO
YOUR ROOM! BAR THE
DOORS AND WINDOWS!
JIM!... LET'S GET TO OUR
ROOM-- QUICK!



THERE! THAT OUGHT TO DO
IT! EVEN IN MOONLIGHT
IT'LL LOOK LIKE US IN
BED! LET'S GO!



I'M RIGHT AGAIN!
HERE SHE COMES
NOW!

YEAH - AND THIS
TIME WE WON'T
LOSE HER IN
THE JUNGLE!



SO, MY BLACK ONES! TONIGHT IT IS **MORE** THAN A MAULING! TONIGHT YOU BRING **DEATH** TO THE AMERIKANDERS! AND TONIGHT WE WILL NOT GET THE WRONG ROOM! BUT **YOUR** CLAWS WILL HAVE TO DO THE JOB ALONE - FOR THE BULLET OF THE AMERIKANDER HAS MADE MY ARM NEARLY USELESS.



WAIT, MY PRETTY ONES! WAIT UNTIL I BECOME ONE OF YOU... THEN WE WILL GO!

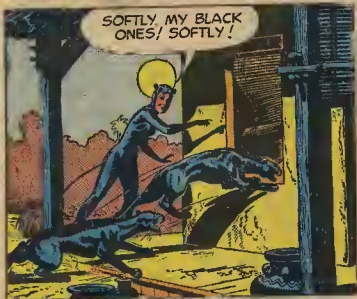


HOLY COW! SO THAT'S IT! SHE WEARS A PANTHER SKIN! HOW D'YA LIKE THAT?

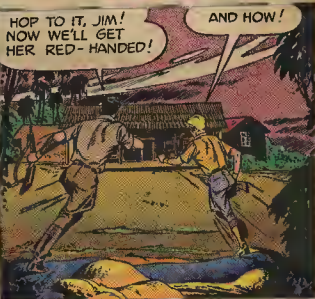


WE COULD SHOOT NOW - BUT NO! WE WANT TO CAPTURE HER! LET'S FOLLOW HER!

SOFTLY MY BLACK ONES! SOFTLY!



HOP TO IT, JIM! NOW WE'LL GET HER RED-HANDED!



AND HOW!

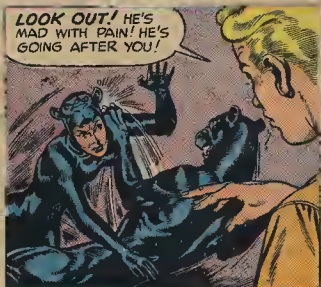
OKAY, GORA! WERE PITCHING THIS TIME



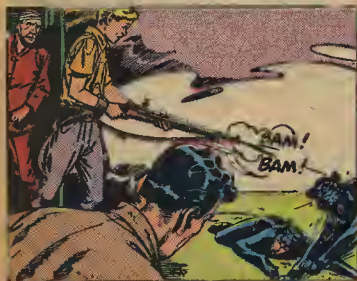
... AND YOU'VE STRUCK OUT!!

WHAT!?! YOU!!?





AS GORA IS TORN BY THE PANTHER'S CLAWS, JIM FIRES SHOT AFTER SHOT AT THE DYING BEAST—BUT IT IS TOO LATE TO SAVE HER!



The End

SEB-EK

CROCODILE GOD OF THE NILE

WHEN TWO RUTHLESS
MAGICIANS SELECT
A CROCODILE AS
THEIR PAWN IN
PLAYING ON THE
SUPERSTITIONS
OF BACKWARD
EGYPTIANS, THEIR
PLAN MAY BACKFIRE—
ESPECIALLY WHEN
AN AMERICAN
APPEARS ON THE
SCENE AND TURNS
A FAKE GOD
ON ITS OWN
CREATORS...



KIRDU,
THE
EGYPTIAN
MAGICIAN,
AND HIS
WIFE,
MORLA,
SIT IN
THEIR
DRESSING
ROOM
IN A
CAIRO
THEATRE!

MORLA, PEOPLE DO
NOT COME TO THE
THEATRE TO SEE US
ANY MORE! WHEN I
GO INTO THE TANK
WITH THE CROCODILE,
THEY BELIEVE HE
IS TAME!

BUT KOLGA IS NOT TAME,
KIRDU! WHEN I FED HIM
HIS MEAT THIS MORNING,
HE TRIED TO SNAP AT
ME! WE CANNOT
AFFORD TO FEED
HIM ENOUGH!

WE ARE THROUGH WITH THIS WORKING
IN THEATRES FOR A MISERABLE LIVING!
I HAVE AN IDEA THAT WILL MAKE US
RICH! MORLA! PACK OUR THINGS WHILE
I PUT KOLGA INTO HIS CAGE! WE ARE
GOING UP-COUNTRY...
UP THE NILE!



...AND SO, KIRDU, MORLA AND KOLGA THE
CROCODILE, WERE NEVER SEEN AGAIN IN THE
THEATRES OF EGYPT! AND SEVERAL YEARS
LATER, SOMEWHERE UP THE NILE---

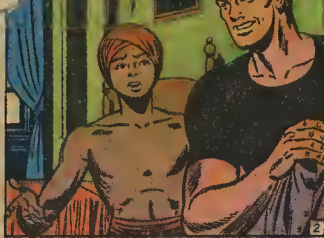
EFFENDI PAUL CARLIN, AS
MAMUR OF THIS DISTRICT
I NEED YOUR HELP! IN
THE VILLAGE OF KOOBAB
UP-RIVER, MANY VISITORS
HAVE DISAPPEARED, BUT
OUR POLICE HAVE BEEN
ABLE TO DISCOVER NOTHING!
I HOPED THAT...

...THAT I MIGHT FIND
THE CAUSE? PERHAPS!
I HAVE BEEN IN EGYPT
MANY YEARS AND HAVE
MANY FRIENDS! I WILL
DO ALL I CAN! MY
HELPER, HAREEB, KNOWS
THE NILE LIKE HIS
HAND! WE WILL LEAVE
IN THE MORNING.

PAUL CARLIN HURRIES BACK TO HIS HOTEL AND
BREAKS THE NEWS TO HAREEB, HIS YOUNG
FRIEND...

...SO WE GO
UP THE NILE TOMORROW
TO FIND WHY THE
PEOPLE DISAPPEAR?
HA! BUT I KNOW WHY!
IN THE VILLAGE OF
KOOBAB LIVES SEB-EK,
THE CROCODILE GOD,
WHO EATS THE
MEN!

NONSENSE! THE
ANCIENT GODS
WENT OUT WITH
THE PYRAMIDS
AND PHARAOKHS!



MEANWHILE, IN A STRANGE TEMPLE IN THE VILLAGE OF KOOBAB...

O'MORLA! THE PEOPLE OF OUR VILLAGE ARE POOR! WE CANNOT CONTINUE TO BRING THE MANY GIFTS SEB-EK DEMANDS! PERHAPS LATER, WHEN OUR CROPS IMPROVE...

VERY WELL, MELEP! KIRDU, HIS HIGH PRIEST, WILL GO UNDER THE WATER TO ASK SEB-EK TO BE KIND! BUT SEB-EK IS ANGRY! HE MUST HAVE A LIVING SACRIFICE AT THE NEXT FULL MOON!

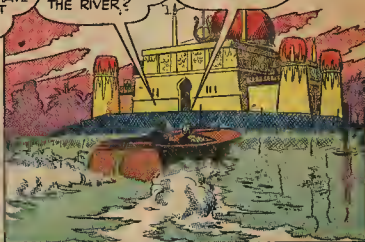
YES, MISTRESS!



AND SO THE STAGE IS SET FOR THE STRANGE DRAMA INTO WHICH PAUL AND HAREEB ARE SOON TO BE DRAWN, AS THEY APPROACH THE TEMPLE DAYS LATER!

HAREEB! LOOK! A TEMPLE! AND WHAT IS THAT FENCE STICKING OUT IN THE RIVER?

HA! AS I TOLD YOU—IT IS THE HOME OF SEB-EK!



A SHORT WHILE LATER, THEY REACH THE VILLAGE.

EFFENDI PAUL! IT IS GOOD TO SEE YOU! I HOPE YOU WILL STAY A LONG WHILE!

AND IT IS GOOD TO SEE YOU, MELEP! WE HAVE COME ON SERIOUS BUSINESS! I MUST TALK WITH YOU!

I WILL VISIT SOME OF MY YOUNG FRIENDS WHILE YOU TALK!



WHILE AT THE TEMPLE PLANS ARE HATCHED FOR THE CEREMONY THAT NIGHT...

HAS MELEP SELECTED THE VICTIM YET? TONIGHT IS THE NIGHT OF THE FULL MOON!

A VICTIM WILL BE CHOSEN BY TONIGHT! BUT KIRDU, I AM AFRAID--KOLGA IS WILD WITH HUNGER! WE MUST FEED HIM BEFORE YOU WRESTLE WITH HIM TONIGHT!



...BUT THEN HE WILL NOT EAT THE SACRIFICE!

NO MATTER! THE PEOPLE WILL NOT KNOW! KOLGA WILL DRAG THE VICTIM DOWN TO HIS UNDERWATER CAVE AND EAT HIM LATER! BUT FEED HIM NOW FOR YOUR OWN SAFETY!



PAUL AND HAREEB DISCUSS THEIR PLANS IN THE HOUSE LOANED TO THEM...

I HAVE TALKED WITH MY FRIENDS AND LEARNED MUCH OF THE STRANGE DOINGS IN THE VILLAGE! THE TEMPLE

OHO! A HIGH PRIEST AND PRIESTESS, EH? THEN THERE IS BOUND TO BE SOME TRICKERY!

PERHAPS - BUT LOOK! EVEN NOW THE PEOPLE GO TO THE TEMPLE FOR THE SACRIFICE TO SEB-EK IN THE CEREMONY OF THE FULL MOON!

WHAT! A HUMAN SACRIFICE! HAREEB! YOU GO WITH THE CROWD! KEEP YOUR EYES AND EARS OPEN! I'M GOING TO HAVE A TALK WITH MELEP!

IS THE HOME OF SEB-EK! THE YOUNG PEOPLE ARE DOUBTFUL, YET THEY CANNOT EXPLAIN THE DOINGS OF KIRDU AND MORLA, THE HIGH PRIEST AND PRIESTESS!



BUT IF PAUL COULD HEAR THE CONVERSATION OF THE ELDERS IN COUNCIL AT THIS VERY MOMENT, HE WOULD NOT HURRY TO VISIT MELEP...

MELEP, LONG HAVE WE ELDERS TALKED, BUT WE CANNOT FIND IT IN OUR HEARTS TO GIVE ANOTHER OF OUR BROTHERS INTO THE JAWS OF SEB-EK!

AIEE! THERE HAS COME TO US ANOTHER VISITOR - AN AMERICAN! LET HIM BE THE SACRIFICE - AND THUS SPARE OUR BROTHERS!

THE EFFENDI PAUL? BUT HE IS OUR GOOD FRIEND! HE HAS COUNSELLED US AND HEALED OUR SICK IN TIME OF NEED! WE CANNOT SEND HIM INTO THE JAWS OF SEB-EK!

WE HAVE SO DECIDED, MELEP! IT IS BETTER THAN SACRIFICING OUR OWN! IT IS SAID!



I MUST BOW TO YOUR DECISION! SO BE IT!

MELEP! WHAT IS THIS I HEAR OF HUMAN SACRIFICE! IT CAN'T BE TRUE!

ALAS, GOOD FRIEND! IT MUST BE --

AND YOU MUST BE THE SACRIFICE! FORGIVE US!



AND SO, THE SACRIFICIAL CEREMONY BEGINS - THE PEOPLE OF THE VILLAGE ASSEMBLE IN FEARFUL AWE TO WITNESS THE SACRIFICE! THEN MORLA STEPS FORWARD AND SPEAKS!

FELLAHIN OF KOOBAZ, YOU' BOW BEFORE SEB-EK THE MIGHTY, FOR SEB-EK'S PEOPLE, THE CROCODILE, HAVE BEEN CHASED FROM THE BANKS OF THE NILE BY THE MANY BOATS AND FARMS IN EGYPT - AND SEB-EK IS ANGRY! ONE DAY HE WILL BRING HIS ANGER DOWN ON ALL OF EGYPT - BUT YOU WHO HAVE BUILT THIS TEMPLE AND THE WIRE FENCE IN THE RIVER AS A HOME FOR SEB-EK WILL BE SAFE! BUT SEB-EK ALSO DEMANDS GIFTS, WHICH YOU MUST BRING HIM SOON, AND TONIGHT, BECAUSE THERE HAVE BEEN NO GIFTS IN MANY WEEKS, SEB-EK DEMANDS A SACRIFICE!



MELEP! BRING FORTH THE SACRIFICE!

WE HAVE CHOSEN THE AMERICAN, MOST HIGH ONE!

KIRDU! CALL THE CROCODILE GOD! CALL SEB-EK!



OUT OF THE MYSTERIES OF THE NILE, COME TO US, O SEB-EK! FROM YOUR HOME BENEATH THE BROWN WATERS, COME TO US! LEAVE THOSE WHO DRESS IN SCALES AND FINS! WE CALL YOU TO US, O SEB-EK!





THE CROCODILE NOT HUNGRY ENOUGH TO EAT HIS SACRIFICE, DRAGS PAUL TO HIS DEN IN THE RIVER'S DEPTHS---

A four-panel comic strip. The first panel shows a crocodile in a cave, dragging a man by his arm. The second panel shows the man being pulled into the water. The third panel shows the man being pulled into the water. The fourth panel shows the man being pulled into the water.

IN THE CONFUSION OF THE CEREMONY AT THE TEMPLE, NO ONE HAS NOTICED HAREEB DIVE INTO THE RIVER AND DESCEND TO THE MOUTH OF THE CROCODILE DEN---

I SAW THE CROCODILE SWIM FROM THIS DEN! HE MUST HAVE LEFT EFFENDI PAUL HERE!



EFFENDI PAUL!
THERE HE IS!
HE IS SAFE!



WH-WHERE AM I? WHAT HAPPENED?

WE ARE IN THE CROCODILE'S DEN! PLEASE... **PLEASE** FEEL WELL VERY QUICKLY! WE MUST SWIM OUT OF HERE BEFORE BIG CROCODILE COMES BACK!



OH--OH! THERE'S THAT BIG BABY NOW!
WE'D BETTER PUT SOME SPEED ON!





WHEW! THIS FENCE IS A LIFE-SAVER!



THERE YOU ARE, HAREEB! AND JUST IN TIME!

WHOOEE! THAT CROCODILE ONE ANGRY FELLOW!



C'MON, HAREEB! WE'RE GOING BACK INTO THAT TEMPLE! THERE ARE A COUPLE OF COOKIES I WANT TO SETTLE ACCOUNTS WITH!

BUT, EFFENDI PAUL! IT IS DANGEROUS! THEY MAY KILL YOU!



PEOPLE OF KOOBAB! HEAR ME! YOU HAVE BEEN BETRAYED BY IMPOSTERS!

WH...? IT IS THE AMERICAN! HE HAS ESCAPED! KILL HIM!

MY FRIENDS, KIRDU AND MORLA HAVE TRICKED YOU! THE GOD YOU HAVE BEEN WORSHIPPING IS NOTHING BUT A HUGE CROCODILE! I HAVE JUST ESCAPED HIS DEN WITH THE HELP OF HAREEB, ONE OF YOUR OWN PEOPLE! IT IS TIME YOU RID YOURSELVES OF THESE FAKERS WHO HAVE ROBBED YOU OF YOUR RICHES!



SEIZE THE DECEIVERS! THEY TRICKED US!

COME, MORLA! WE MUST ESCAPE INTO THE RIVER! QUICKLY!

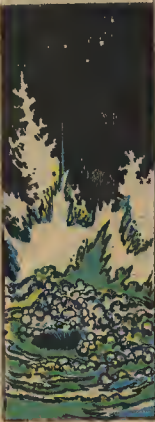
NO! YOU FOOLS! THE CROCODILE IS ANGERED!



BUT THE WARNING COMES TOO LATE! KIRDU AND MORLA DIVE - AND RIGHT TOWARDS THE WAITING JAWS OF KOLGA!



... AND THE THRESHING WATERS TELL THEIR OWN STORY, AS SEB-EK CLAIMS HIS TRUSTED SERVANTS!



WELL, THAT IS THE END OF THE SUPERSTITIOUS SLAVERY IN KOOBAB! THE PEOPLE ARE TEARING DOWN THE TEMPLE!

YES! AND THE CROCODILE IS IN THE TOMBS - WHERE HE BELONGS! NOW WE HEAD DOWN RIVER - FOR HOME!



THE
END

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The lively foot of a child.



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